THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The process of modernisation is an ongoing process keeping with the growth in traffic and availability of resources. A new international passenger complex has been completed in Mumbai Airport and work relating to aerobridge is likely to be completed in July, 2000. At Calcutta Airport, modernisation of Terminal-II for international passenger is likely to be completed in June, 2000. At Indira Crandhi International Airport Delhi, works relating to construction of export and import Cargo Terminals are likely to be completed!in June and September, 2000 respectively. At Chennai Airport, the projects of construction of International Cargo Terminal and modernisation of Anna International Terminal are likely to be completed by March, 2001 and December, 2002, respectively. At Thiruvananthapuram Airport, modernisation of international passenger terminal have been completed.

Privatisation 0f IA and AI

462. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to privatise the Indian Airlines and Air India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission of India to disinvest Government's equity in Air India are under consideration.

As regards, Indian Airlines, it has been decided to disinvest fifty one per cent shares of the IA's equity. While 26% of the equity would be sold to a joint venture (JV)/strategic partner (who may be a group or an individual), the remaining 25% would be offered to employees, financial institutions and public. The disinvestment will be done within the framework of "Domestic Air Transport Policy"

under which the maximum foreign holding of the JV/stratcgic partner would not be allowed to exceed 40% except for in the case of NRIs/ NRI controlled OCBs. Further disinvestment will be undertaken subsequently as per the Government policy at that time.

Crash course in aviation security

463. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any crash course in aviation security has been worked out for sky marshals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures taken for aircraft surveillance to prevent hijacking and passenger safety?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A compact capsule training course has been arranged with the coordinated efforts of National Security Guard and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security. The training programme includes response to hijack situation, conduct of operations, safety precautions in aircraft and practical hands on exposure for conducting successful operations, if the need arises.

(c) Does not arise.

Discount on fares by International carriers

464. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International carriers have to take permission from the Director General of Civil Aviation for giving any di.scbunts to the passengers; and

(b) if so, the reasons for having such a control in a liberalized economy?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) International airlines arc required to file special unilateral fares with the Director General of Civil Aviation